

REMARKS

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-3 are currently pending in the subject patent application. By the present amendment, claim 1 has been amended. It is submitted that no new matter has been added to the subject application.

II. TELEPHONIC INTERVIEW

Applicant's undersigned attorney would like to thank Examiner Nguyen for the courtesies exchanged during a telephone conversation conducted on January 13, 2005. During this conversation, the changes to claim 1, as set forth in this amendment, were presented to Examiner Nguyen to determine whether they would overcome the outstanding 35 USC §112 rejection to claim 1. After reviewing these proposed changes, Examiner Nguyen indicated they do overcome the outstanding 35 USC §112 rejection.

III. 35 USC §112 REJECTION

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In particular, both the preamble and step (e) of claim 1 were found to be indefinite in view of the claimed invention. Accordingly, both the preamble and step (e) were amended to more clearly define the present invention and to overcome the subject 35 USC §112 rejection.

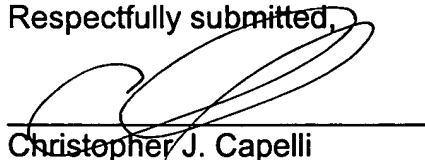
In view of the aforesaid amendment to claim 1, and as indicated by the Examiner (as mentioned above), it is respectfully submitted the subject 35 USC §112 rejection has been overcome and removal thereof is warranted.

IV. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that pending claims 1-3 are in condition for allowance and favorable action thereon is requested. If the

Examiner should have any questions, he is kindly urged to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'C' followed by 'J. Capelli', written over a horizontal line.

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